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BOOKS RECEIVED.

THE CODIFIED NEGOTIABLE INSTRUMENTS LAW OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK.—Laws of New York, 1897, chapter 612, being chapter L. of the General Laws (also Laws of Connecticut, 1897, chapter 74; Laws of Colorado, 1897, chapter 239; Laws of Florida, 1897, chapter 4524), with an Appendix containing the New York Interest Laws. Edited by JAMES W. EATON, Esq., of the Albany Bar, Instructor on Bills and Notes in the Albany Law School, and by H. NOYES GREEN, Esq., of the Troy Bar, author of the Law of Taxable Transfers and Practice Time Table. Albany, N. Y.: Matthew Bender, Publisher, 511-513 Broadway. 1897. Pp. 165; \$1.50.

As indicated in the title page, this volume contains a codification of the law of negotiable instruments. The codified law has been adopted during the present year by the States of New York, Connecticut, Colorado and Florida. The work seems to have been admirably done. The Act is based upon, though not identical with, the English Bills of Exchange Act, adopted in England in 1882. Save in rare instances, no effort has been made to change the existing law, but the prime object of the statute is to settle disputed principles and to encourage, by its adoption, uniformity in the law of negotiable paper in all the States. Each section is accompanied by valuable editorial annotations, and the volume will be found extremely useful to practitioners in all of the States, even in advance of its adoption by legislative enactment. The Act is the result of the efforts of the American Bar Association, through its committee on Uniformity of Laws. We should be glad to see it adopted by the Virginia legislature.

The volume contains a most excellent index.

UNITED STATES CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEALS REPORTS, containing the cases determined in all the circuits, from the organization of the courts, fully reported, with annotations. Vol. 24. St. Paul: West Publishing Co.

In addition to the usual reports of cases, this volume contains several annotations of great value, viz.: *The Exclusion, Regulation and Taxation of Foreign Corporations* (26 pp.), by Wm. L. Clark, Jr., the well-known author of *Clark on Corporations, Contracts, etc.*; *Power of a Corporation to Assign for Benefit of Creditors, and Right to Prefer Creditors* (10 pp.), by the same author; *Tax Deeds as Color of Title* (6 pp.), by H. Campbell Black, author of *Black on Judgments, Tax Titles, etc.*; and *Mortgage Foreclosures in the Federal Courts* (8 pp.), by Mr. Black. Each of these notes contains a full collection of authorities. The annotations constitute one of the most valuable features of this valuable series.

THE LAW OF SALES OF PERSONAL PROPERTY.—By FRANCIS M. BURDICK, DWIGHT Professor of Law in Columbia University School of Law. Boston: Little, Brown and Company. 1897. 278 pp. Cloth, \$2.50 net; law sheep, \$3.00 net.

This volume is the latest addition to the excellent series of text-books for law students now being issued by this old and well-known firm. The author, in his preface, thus speaks of the character of the work: "This book is intended especially

for law students; and its characteristics have been determined largely by the writer's experience in the lecture-room. As a rule, questions are discussed with a fullness proportioned to the trouble which they have given to the student or to his aptness to misapprehend the principles which they involve. On the other hand, a few topics which are found in most treatises on sales have been omitted, upon the assumption that the student has already mastered them. A discussion of such subjects as consideration, mutual assent, the capacity of parties, illegality and fraud, belongs to the study of pure contracts and of torts, and its repetition ought to be unnecessary during the investigation of a branch of applied contracts." We commend these methods to other authors who have undertaken to treat this subject for students. We believe no writer who has not experienced the difficulties of the lecture-room, is qualified to prepare a students' text-book. Prof. Burdick has an admirable style, his arrangement is excellent, and his treatment of his subject seems to have been conscientious and thorough.